

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

**FESTUS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON & ORDERED TO PAY RESTITUTION ON
FEDERAL VIOLATIONS OF THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT**

St. Louis, MO: Jason Becks was sentenced to twelve months and one day in prison on charges involving the illegal disposal of hazardous waste, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

"The illegal disposal of hazardous waste has a significant impact on the environment, as well as a financial impact associated with the clean-up. Mr. Becks was also ordered to pay \$29,000 restitution to the EPA for the cost associated with the clean-up of the hazardous waste," said Hanaway. "This case demonstrates that the EPA and this office take these violations very seriously, and violators will be prosecuted and face serious penalties."

In January 2008, Becks was hired to complete a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment at Economy Tire, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri. During the Phase I assessment, Becks observed several 55 gallon drums inside the building and entered into an agreement with the owner of the building to remove and dispose of the drums for a fee of approximately \$600. Becks illegally transported and disposed of six drums containing hazardous waste by transporting and abandoning the drums in Jefferson County, Missouri.

JASON BECKS of Festus, Missouri, pled guilty in May to one felony count of violating the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). He appeared today for sentencing before United States District Judge Charles A. Shaw.

Hanaway commended the work performed on the case by Region 7 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Emergency Response Division and Criminal Investigation Division, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and First Assistant United States Attorney Michael W. Reap and Special Assistant United States Attorney Anne Rauch, who are handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.